COMMUNITY

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EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS

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SPORTS

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Linzie y Jesse Venegas de Ideal Group, reconocidos como Emprendedores del Año 2025

Ernst & Young LLP anunció recientemente que Linzie y Jesse Venegas, de Ideal Group, fueron nombrados ganadores del premio a los emprendedores del Año 2025 de Michigan y el Noroeste de Ohio.

Entrepreneur Of The Year (EY) es el programa de premios competitivo más prestigioso para emprendedores y líderes de empresas de alto crecimiento. Durante 40 años, EY US ha reconocido a emprendedores ambiciosos que transforman industrias, impactan comunidades y generan valor a largo plazo.

Linzie y Jesse fueron elegidos por un panel independiente, compuesto por antiguos ganadores, destacados directores ejecutivos y líderes empresariales.

Los jueces evaluaron a los candidatos en función de su creación de valor a largo plazo, espíritu emprendedor, compromiso con un propósito definido y un crecimiento e impacto significativos.

"Nos sentimos sumamente honrados de haber sido nombrados entre los ganadores del Premio EY Entrepreneur Of The Year para Michigan y el Noroeste de Ohio", declaró Linzie Venegas, presidenta de Ideal Group.

"Este reconocimiento es un gran orgullo para Jesse y para mí, pero es un verdadero reflejo de todo nuestro equipo en The Ideal Group, Inc., Ideal Contracting, Ideal Shield e Ideal Setech Companies.

El éxito nunca es un camino en solitario. Se trata de las personas, la cultura y los valores compartidos que nos impulsan cada día. Un sincero agradecimiento al fundador de Ideal y a nuestro padre, Frank Venegas, quien construyó un legado de integridad y propósito que continúa moldeando nuestra identidad. Estamos profundamente agradecidos a Cresa Detroit por la nominación y a EY por destacar el impacto que los emprendedores están generando en todo el mundo a través de este programa fenomenal. Y a todos los finalistas y ganadores, sus historias y su trabajo son inspiradores."

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Linzie and Jesse Venegas of Ideal Group Recognized as Entrepreneurs Of The Year 2025

Ernst & Young 2025 Entrepreneurs of the Year Winners Jesse and Linzie Venegas. Photo provided by Ernst & Young LLP

Ernst & Young LLP recently announced that Linzie and Jesse Venegas of Ideal Group were named Entrepreneurs Of The Year 2025 Michigan and Northwest Ohio Award winners. Entrepreneur Of The Year is the preeminent competitive awards program for entrepreneurs and leaders of high-growth companies. For 40 years, EY US has celebrated ambitious entrepreneurs who are transforming industries, impacting communities and creating long-term value.

Linzie and Jesse were chosen by an independent panel of past winners, top CEOs and business leaders. Judges assessed candidates on long-term value creation, entrepreneurial spirit, purpose-driven commitment and significant growth and impact.

"We are incredibly honored to be named as one of the recipients of the EY Entrepreneur of the Year Award for Michigan and Northwest Ohio," said Linzie Venegas, President of Ideal Group.

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Michigan food banks lack capacity for fallout of 'Big, Beautiful Bill'

Guest Opinion by Adrian Lewis, CEO of Forgotten Harvest

Rising demand is not always a good thing.

Increasing demand for emergency food assistance means more of our neighbors are hungry.

And yet, the cuts to Medicaid and SNAP benefits contained in the budget bill signed into law by President Donald Trump last week will result in historic reductions in benefits that low-income, sick and hungry people receive at a time when Forgotten Harvest and our partner food pantries are already struggling with the existing demand for our services.

The budget calls for approximately $4.5 trillion in tax cuts that are offset by $1.8 trillion in federal spending cuts $1.2 trillion of which comes from the SNAP and Medicaid programs.

Michigan food banks distributed 155.8 million meals last year. The cuts to SNAP contained in the budget reconciliation bill could result in Michigan families losing the equivalent of 284 million meals.

That is an increase in demand that far outstrips the existing emergency food system's capacity. Hunger is going to increase among our fellow Michiganders because of this legislation.

Proponents of the bill contended that the federal government is not reducing funding and that the changes that are being made are intended to eliminate fraud and waste.

Neither of these statements are true. The budget calls for shifting 15-25% of the SNAP program costs and 25% of the administrative costs to the states. This will result in a new $900 million annual cost to the State of Michigan's budget a cost that can only be paid by raising taxes or taking SNAP food assistance benefits away from people.

The biggest source of fraud in the existing SNAP program comes from thieves electronically stealing the benefits paid to SNAP recipients because Congress has not authorized properly encrypting SNAP benefit cards.

There are 1.474 million Michigan residents whose net household income is at or below the federal poverty threshold ($32,150 for a family of four), who are receiving SNAP benefits. This number includes 461,000 children and 225,000 senior citizens; 67% of SNAP beneficiaries also depend on Medicaid for health coverage.

There is nothing beautiful about making poor people both hungrier and sicker.

Americans should demand better from their members of Congress.

Erica Guido, a Forgotten Harvest client service coordinator, walks inside the Forgotten Harvest Community Choice Market trailer parked outside LA SED Senior and Youth Center in Southwest Detroit on Feb. 28. DAVID RODRIGUEZ MUNOZ/DETROIT FREE PRESS

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Detroit City FC Selects HOK to Design 15,000-Seat Soccer Stadium

The new venue on the former Southwest Detroit Hospital site will anchor community revitalization and debut in the 2027 USL season.

NEW YORK — United Soccer League Championship club Detroit City FC has chosen global design, architecture, engineering, and planning firm HOK to lead the design of its new 15,000-seat stadium in southwest Detroit. The stadium is expected to open in the 2027 USL season.

The city's first soccer-specific stadium will rise on the abandoned site of the former Southwest Detroit Hospital. HOK's design will create a welcoming community hub that bridges downtown Detroit between the historic Corktown and Southwest neighborhoods. Beyond match days, Detroit City FC's owners envision the stadium supporting economic development in the neighborhoods and city.

"This partnership with HOK marks an exciting new chapter for our stadium project and DCFC," said Sean Mann, CEO of DCFC. "This stadium represents more than a home for our club — it's a testament to the passion and resilience of our supporters and the spirit of our city. As one of the first major projects led by a new generation of Detroiters, we take immense pride in creating a place where our community can gather and celebrate for years. We look forward to working with an industry leader like HOK to bring this vision to life."

"We're honored to collaborate with Detroit City FC on a project that will celebrate the club's passionate supporters while energizing the city," said Chris DeVolder, director of Sports + Recreation + Entertainment at HOK. "The stadium will be a vibrant example of urban placemaking. Our design will embrace the unique site and offer fans an exceptional, hospitality-driven game-day experience."

About Detroit City Football Club

Founded in 2012, Detroit City FC has established itself as one of the most talked-about soccer teams in North America. The organization's founding vision was to satisfy the demand for soccer in downtown Detroit, represent the city in a positive light, and build community through "the beautiful game." Founded by a group of young Detroiters, Detroit City FC has developed into a minor league soccer success story, with one of the most exciting match atmospheres in North America, consistently sold-out games, and passionate supporters. Today, DCFC fields a men's first team that participates in the USL Championship – the second highest level in the US men's game; a women's team that plays in the amateur USL W League, a growing youth academy, a growing statewide affiliation of youth clubs numbering over 3000 players, as well as a successful indoor soccer facility in downtown Detroit. Learn more at detcityfc.com.

About HOK

HOK's Sports + Recreation + Entertainment practice specializes in designing stadiums, arenas, ballparks, training and recreation facilities, and entertainment complexes that anchor thriving entertainment districts. Recent and ongoing projects include Etihad Park, New York City's first soccer-specific stadium for New York City FC; Energizer Park for St. Louis CITY SC; Little Caesars Arena and The District Detroit in Detroit; Mercedes-Benz Stadium and the State Farm Arena renovation in Atlanta; the Footprint Center renovation in Phoenix; Hard Rock Stadium in Miami; and Rogers Place and the ICE District in Edmonton. Celebrating our 70th anniversary in 2025, HOK is a collective of future-forward thinkers and designers who are driven to face the critical challenges of our time. We are dedicated to improving people's lives, serving our clients and healing the planet. Together, we cultivate a culture of design excellence at the confluence of art and science, blending the power of creative expression with a clear sense of purpose. Learn more at hok.com.

De la oficina del Tesorero del Condado de Wayne,
Eric R. Sabree

PUEDE AYUDARLO CON EL PROCESO DE ASISTENCIA CON SUCESIONES

¿Se enfrenta a una ejecución hipotecaria y necesita ayuda para iniciar un proceso de sucesiones en el Tribunal de Sucesiones del Condado de Wayne porque una propiedad está a nombre de un familiar fallecido?

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www.Treasurer.WayneCounty.com
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Brushstrokes & Brainpower: Teachers Gather to Boost Student Thinking Through Art

Story and photos by Amber Ogden

Artists' masterpieces, including those of Diego Rivera, Charles McGee, and even Rembrandt, surrounded by the marble columns and historical masterpieces of the Detroit Institute of Arts, drew dozens of Wayne County educators together on June 26 for a professional development experience unlike any other as educators were armed not with lesson plans or grading rubrics but with an open mindset rooted in art.

These teachers engaged in a day of learning centered on "computational thinking", a concept creatively coined by the Wayne Regional Educational Service Agency (RESA) as "CT in the D," a unique program that integrates art into classrooms across all subject areas.

The event, now in its second year, is a partnership with Wayne RESA, the Michigan Department of Education, and the national nonprofit Project Tomorrow. It offers K–12 teachers hands-on opportunities to deepen their understanding of computational thinking (CT), a problem-solving approach that includes decomposition, pattern recognition, algorithmic design, and abstraction.

Tyler Taylor, Associate Educator at Detroit Institute of Arts with local educators from Wayne County. (Charles McGee Artist, 'Noah's Ark Genesis)

Katie Marchionna, Computational Thinking Project Manager for Project Tomorrow, emphasized the importance of incorporating art into the classroom, as well as providing educators with diverse art experiences.

"We're looking at computational thinking, which is just another way to approach problems and we've been doing this work in Michigan for about the past six years."

"But about a year ago, the state passed a new law to grant money for districts to get some professional development to their teachers on concepts like this," Marchionna added.

Computational thinking has gained national attention as an essential 21st-century skill in all areas of education. In Michigan, the Department of Education has encouraged districts to adopt interdisciplinary approaches that help students develop CT skills early and often. Programs like "CT in the D" are a direct response to that call.

Project Tomorrow has been instrumental in shaping national frameworks for computational thinking and has worked closely with Michigan educators to pilot programs that are inclusive, student-centered, and scalable.

Rather than hosting the workshop in a traditional conference room or school auditorium, organizers chose the DIA as both a backdrop and a teaching tool. During the daylong session, educators participated in guided exercises throughout the museum, using CT strategies to interpret artwork and develop lessons they could bring back to their own classrooms.

In one gallery, a group of educators took the time to study Charles McGee's *Noah's Ark: Genesis 1984*. With perplexed looks on their faces and questions swirling as they interpret what they are looking at.

Tyler Taylor, Associate Educator at Detroit Institute of Arts with local educators from Wayne County (Rembrandt Peale Artist, 'The Court of Death')

Tyler Taylor, Associate Educator at Detroit Institute of Arts, encouraged teachers to express what they are seeing.

"I've noticed a lot of triangles and angles and fingers...," one teacher said.

"Triangle-shaped hair and it makes me wonder what the symbolism of that is," another teacher said.

Taylor continued to guide the room of educators through their feelings and interpretations, discussing how to map out a lesson plan that would help students create their own visual interpretations of change.

One of the unique aspects of "CT in the D" is its ability to bring together educators from across Wayne County, fostering collaboration among urban, suburban, and rural school districts. Participants hailed from places like Romulus, Livonia, Redford, Detroit, and Wyandotte.

Throughout the day, teachers shared lesson ideas, co-designed classroom activities, and reflected on how CT could help close learning gaps, particularly for students underrepresented in STEM fields.

Leila Abuhabma is the Lead Teacher at Crestwood Early Childhood Center and highlights that children at the preschool age are like little sponges but also fertile ground for creativity and learning, and programs like this are an amazing source.

"Having low-income programs where families bond together; it's amazing. Programs like this show there is hope for these families," Abuhabma said.

"There is no excuse of oh, you can't, no, there's an opportunity you can we're able, let's do it. So this is why we're here today, and we're just trying to connect our schools to the outside community."

In one breakout session, educators explored how to use CT to guide students through current events, helping them break down complex issues like climate change or social justice movements into manageable concepts that support deeper understanding and civic engagement.

Wayne RESA plans to expand the CT initiative next year with more localized training, digital tools, and continued partnerships with institutions like the DIA. Leaders say the goal is to make CT a foundational part of learning in Wayne County, not a one-off enrichment but a framework embedded in how students and teachers approach every subject.

Laura Gabrion, Literacy Consultant at Wayne RESA, says that connecting K-12 students through art and equipping teachers with artistic tools for students to take back to the classroom is a priority, but doing it at the Detroit Institute of Arts is one of the best places to have this lesson.

"Visual thinking strategies, connecting it to computational thinking through art, which then opens the doors for other content areas for educators," Garbion said.

"And in true transparency, the DIA is a nice book; really, you're not looking at just the artwork, but also the architecture of the building itself."

Amber Ogden is a freelance writer born and raised in Detroit. She has published work in Forbes, Chevy in the D, Model D, and Rachel Ray Every Day. She enjoys art, culture, and eating her way through the city in her free time.

This article and photos were made possible thanks to a generous grant to EL CENTRAL Hispanic News by Press Forward, the national movement to strengthen communities by reinvigorating local news. Learn more at www.pressforward.news.

MHCC Receives $100,000 Grant from New Economy Initiative

AUBURN HILLS — The New Economy Initiative (NEI) announced the renewal of a $100,000 grant to the Michigan Hispanic Fund, the 501c3 foundation of the Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, for our program Adelante Michigan to support small businesses and entrepreneurs in Wayne County as they launch, grow, and scale their operations.

Continued support for Hispanic micro businesses is essential to their long-term success. These small enterprises often face significant barriers—from financial constraints to a lack of technical knowledge—that can hinder growth and sustainability. We help these businesses grow and become more sustainable by providing the individual technical assistance they need.

This support empowers entrepreneurs to build strong foundations, adopt modern tools and practices, and contribute to a more vibrant, inclusive local economy.

About the New Economy Initiative

The New Economy Initiative is a philanthropic collaboration and initiative of the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan that is working to build a regional network of support for entrepreneurs and small businesses. Its mission is to grow an inclusive culture of entrepreneurship in southeast Michigan that benefits all residents and strengthens the regional economy. Since 2009, NEI has awarded 750 grants totaling $145.4 million, assisting 29,699 companies in the ecosystem. Learn more at https://neweconomyinitiative.org/.

The Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan is a full-service philanthropic organization leading the way to positive change in our region. As a permanent community endowment built by gifts from thousands of individuals and organizations, the Foundation supports various activities benefiting education, arts and culture, health, human services, community development, and civic affairs. Since its inception, the Foundation has distributed more than $1 billion through nearly 67,000 grants to nonprofit organizations throughout Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Monroe, Washtenaw, St. Clair, and Livingston counties. For more information, please visit www.cfsem.org.

MHCC
AdelanteMI
NEI
Community Foundation
Great News!
MHCC received a renewed $100,000 grant from the New Economy Initiative to support Adelante Michigan and strengthen small businesses in Wayne County.
This funding helps break down barriers and provides key resources for entrepreneurs to launch, grow, and thrive.

Learn more about the Adelante Michigan Program: www.mhcc.org/adelante-michigan

Ideal Group, Entrepreneurs Of The Year 2025

Con't from pg. 1

This recognition is a proud milestone for Jesse and me, but it's truly a reflection of our entire team at The Ideal Group, Inc., Ideal Contracting, Ideal Shield and Ideal Setech Companies. Success is never a solo journey. It's about the people, the culture, and the shared values that carry us forward each day. A heartfelt thank you to Ideal's founder and our dad, Frank Venegas, who built a legacy of integrity and purpose that continues to shape who we are. We're deeply grateful to Cresa Detroit for the nomination and to EY for highlighting the impact entrepreneurs are making around the world through this phenomenal program. And to all the finalists and winners, your stories and work is inspiring."

As a Michigan and Northwest Ohio award winner, both Linzie and Jesse are now eligible for consideration for the Entrepreneur Of The Year 2025 National Awards. The National Award winners, including the Entrepreneur Of The Year National Overall Award winner, will be announced in November at the Strategic Growth Forum®, one of the nation's most prestigious gatherings of high-growth, market-leading companies. The Entrepreneur Of The Year National Overall Award winner will then move on to compete for the EY World Entrepreneur Of The Year™ Award in June 2026.

Entrepreneur Of The Year recognizes many different types of business leaders for their ingenuity, courage and entrepreneurial spirit. The program celebrates original founders who bootstrapped their business from inception or who raised outside capital to grow their company; transformational CEOs who infused innovation into an existing organization to catapult its trajectory; and multigenerational family business leaders who reimagined a legacy business model to strengthen it for the future.

The **Ideal Group** is a diverse organization comprising seven businesses that operate across three distinct areas: facility guarding and protection, construction services, and manufacturing supply chain services. Established in 1979, **Ideal Steel** specializes in fabricating structural and miscellaneous steel for buildings from its expansive 40,000 square foot fabrication shop. In 1995, **Ideal Shield** emerged as the inventor of the Bollard Cover, along with a range of other facility protection products widely utilized in banks, big-box retailers, and gas stations across the nation. **Ideal Contracting**, founded in 1997, has grown to become one of the largest general contractors in Michigan, expanding its steel construction operations throughout the United States. In 2003, Ideal Setech Share-The-Spare was created to assist a major manufacturer in addressing supply chain challenges related to spare parts for processing machinery. Subsequently, **Ideal Setech**, established in 2007, and **Ideal Setech Canada**, launched in 2019, focus on managing the physical machinery repair components for large manufacturing clients. Lastly, **Ideal Surplus** was founded in 2010 during the global recession to support companies in effectively decommissioning their unused machinery spares.

2025 Entrepreneur of the Year winners at the regional awards celebration in June. Photo by Ernst & Young LLP

About Entrepreneur Of The Year

Founded in 1986, Entrepreneur Of The Year has celebrated more than 11,000 ambitious visionaries who are leading successful, dynamic businesses in the US, and it has since expanded to nearly 60 countries globally.

The US program consists of 17 regional programs whose panels of independent judges select the regional award winners every June. Those winners compete for national recognition at the Strategic Growth Forum® in November where National finalists and award winners are announced. The overall National winner represents the US at the EY World Entrepreneur Of The Year™ competition. Visit ey.com/us/eoy.

Ideal Group, Emprendedores del Año 2025

Con't de pg. 1

Como ganadores de los premios de Michigan y el noroeste de Ohio, tanto Linzie como Jesse ahora son elegibles para los Premios Nacionales al Emprendedor del Año 2025. Los ganadores de los Premios Nacionales, incluido el ganador del Premio Nacional al Emprendedor del Año, se anunciarán en noviembre en el Strategic Growth Forum®, una de las reuniones más prestigiosas del país para empresas líderes en el mercado y de alto crecimiento.

El ganador del Premio Nacional al Emprendedor del Año pasará a competir por el Premio EY World Entrepreneur Of The Year™ en junio de 2026.

El programa Emprendedor del Año reconoce a diferentes tipos de líderes empresariales por su ingenio, coraje y espíritu emprendedor. El programa reconoce a los fundadores originales que impulsaron su negocio desde sus inicios o que recaudaron capital externo para expandirlo; a los CEO transformacionales que infundieron innovación en una organización existente para catapultar su trayectoria; y a los líderes multigeneracionales de empresas familiares que reinventaron un modelo de negocio heredado para fortalecerlo para el futuro.

Ideal Group es una organización diversa que comprende siete empresas que operan en tres áreas distintas: protección y vigilancia de instalaciones, servicios de construcción y servicios para la cadena de suministro de fabricación.

Fundada en 1979, **Ideal Steel** se especializa en la fabricación de acero estructural y de otros materiales para edificios desde su amplio taller de fabricación de 3700 metros cuadrados. En 1995, **Ideal Shield** se convirtió en el inventor de la cubierta de bolardo, junto con una gama de otros productos de protección de instalaciones ampliamente utilizados en bancos, grandes superficies minoristas y gasolineras de todo el país. **Ideal Contracting**, fundada en 1997, se ha convertido en uno de los contratistas generales más grandes de Michigan, expandiendo sus operaciones de construcción de acero por todo Estados Unidos. En 2003, se creó **Ideal Setech** Share-The-Spare para ayudar a un importante fabricante a abordar los desafíos de la cadena de suministro relacionados con las piezas de repuesto para maquinaria de procesamiento. Posteriormente, Ideal Setech, fundada en 2007, e **Ideal Setech Canada**, lanzada en 2019, se centran en la gestión de Componentes físicos para la reparación de maquinaria para grandes clientes del sector manufacturero. Por último, **Ideal Surplus** se fundó en 2010 durante la recesión mundial para ayudar a las empresas a desmantelar eficazmente sus repuestos de maquinaria en desuso.

Acerca del premio al Emprendedor del Año

Entrepreneur Of The Year fue fundado en 1986 y ha reconocido a más de 11,000 visionarios ambiciosos que lideran negocios exitosos y dinámicos en EE. UU., y desde entonces se ha expandido a casi 60 países a nivel mundial.

El programa estadounidense consta de 17 programas regionales cuyos paneles de jueces independientes seleccionan a los ganadores regionales cada junio. Estos ganadores compiten por el reconocimiento nacional en el Strategic Growth Forum® en noviembre, donde se anuncian los finalistas nacionales y los ganadores de los premios. El ganador nacional representa a EE. UU. en el concurso EY World Entrepreneur Of The Year™. Visite ey.com/us/eoy.

Traducción Carmen Elena Luna

Diles que lo Viste en *EL CENTRAL*

Tell them you saw it in *EL CENTRAL*

WE GET LETTERS / RECIBIMOS CARTAS

The following letter and background information is in response to an editorial by LULAC which we featured in our issue dated June 26, 2025 regarding the renaming of Fort Cavazos in Texas.

FROM FORT HOOD TO FORT CAVAZOS

PEOPLE WE SHOULD KNOW

Even though he used to write frequently, my brother Frank returned from his tour of duty in Viet Nam, his demeanor very quiet. All those letters spoke of the kids and how grateful they were for the simplest things in life, candy, towels, gum. Of course, a mere mention and family would bombard the mail with these little gifts until he wrote "don't send anymore stuff. Those kids gave out our location'.

Throughout the years Frank would meet up with some of his Army buddies in Texas and visit Richard Cavazos, who had been the commanding officer at Ft. Hood, one of the largest Army facilities in the nation. Cavazos was known for compassionate leadership and regard for the young men assigned to him.

Frank recounted a time when he and other soldiers were to take over watch duty, 60 enemy soldiers were spotted. Then, lieutenant colonel Cavazos declined to put them in harms way. Cavazos received many honors and awards for his distinguished service, but the highest regards were from those young men that served under him. Many credit their survival to Cavazos leadership.

Richard E, Cavazos, in 1976 named the first Latino brigadier general and in 1982 awarded to 4 star general. Cavazos was 88 when he died in his Texas home land. Those young men, that he regarded so highly , served as his pallbearers, which included my bother Frank.

On May 25, of 2022, Fort Hood was renamed Fort Cavazos.

As for my brother Frank Puente, he recently received his purple heart from Senator Dingall; his service will be recognized by the Detroit Tigers at the June 27th game.

Mary P. Luevanos

Frank Puente, brother of Mary Luevanos and Vietnam veteran, receives recognizition from the Detroit Tigers at the June 27, 2025 game at Comerica Park.

Morena Sends Representatives Across US with Stop in Detroit

Story and photos by Estefania Arellano-Bermudez

"How do we invest in ourselves?" That was the question by Federal Deputy (Mexico's equivalent of a U.S. House Representative). Rosalia Suárez as she spoke to a small group at Detroit's Vamonos cafe on W. Vernor Hwy. this past Sunday afternoon. Suárez, from Michoacan, Mexico, and member of Morena's political party spoke with residents, including local organizers and educators, about Morena's upcoming initiatives.

Five federal deputies from Mexico's Morena Political Party (Movimiento de Regeneración Nacional or National Regeneration Movement) are planning to tour 53 Mexican consulates in the United States, as well as several in Canada. The tour aims to connect with the Mexican diaspora and elevate grassroots concerns related to immigration, economic inequality, and cross-border community organizing.

The event was hosted by Vámonos, a community-driven space known for its cultural gatherings such as local documentary screenings and political education work, and it was organized by Elena Herrada and Jennifer Jones. Herrada, a longtime Detroit activist, praised the venue as a hub of youthful energy and Mexican pride.

"Vámonos is full of young Mexican energy," Herrada said. "The owner, Denisse (Lopez) and her husband Carlos are doing real political education that centers our community."

Community members met with Mexico's Federal Deputy, Rosalia Suárez (beige dress), at Vámonos on W. Vernor to hear about the Morena Party's upcoming initiatives.

During her visit to Detroit, federal deputy Suárez talked at length about the 4th transformation – a promise originally made by Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador (who is often referred to by the nickname AMLO) in regards to the economic gap that exists between high government officials and the impoverished population in Mexico.

"In Mexico, we have a high level of poverty. Obrador's phrase of 'the poor first' is an invitation to prioritize Mexicans who want to leave due to that poverty without investing in ourselves," Saurez said. "How do we invest in ourselves?"

Among those in attendance was Josh Medina, a member of Asamblea Popular, a local grassroots organization working at the intersection of immigrant rights and social justice.

"This is about international solidarity. It's not about us helping them or them helping us, it's about us working together," Medina said.

Rogelio Landin, President of LULAC Detroit, agrees.

"Gracias a Vamonos for hosting representatives of Mexico's Morena Party as they outreach to Mexican communities to share their presence and efforts to support and facilitate bilateral access to Mexico," Landin said.

Part of this bilateral access is the "Finabien card" which allows for sending and receiving money to and from Mexico, usually with lower fees than traditional methods. The card can be used internationally.

Suárez also emphasized the need for grassroots collaborations for change.

"This party is a movement," Suárez said. "There will always be social justice fights – they will have a place in this party."

For more information about the Finabien card, visit https://bit.ly/FinabienMexicoCard

Estefania Arellano-Bermudez is a Latina freelance writer living in metro Detroit. She is a regular contributor to EL CENTRAL Hispanic News and a member of Planet Detroit's Neighborhood Reporting Lab.

This article and photos were made possible thanks to a generous grant to EL CENTRAL Hispanic News by Press Forward, the national movement to strengthen communities by reinvigorating local news. Learn more at www.pressforward.news.

Mexico's Federal Deputy, Rosalia Suárez displays a copy of the "Financial for Well-Being" brochure during a community meeting at Vámonos on July 6, 2025.

Como el banco oficial del Mundial de Clubes FIFA 2025™, Bank of America está junto a usted y cerca de usted. Con el equipo adecuado, los negocios progresan y las comunidades prosperan aquí en Detroit.

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Detroit Police Chief Implores Parental Vigilance Amid Juvenile Shootings

Fourth of July shootings left an officer and two-year-old boy shot as well as one teen killed

By Anna Liz Nichols. Reprinted from Michigan Advance with permission.

Detroit will be cracking down on juvenile curfew violations and ticketing parents who are not ensuring their children are staying out of trouble at night, Detroit Police Chief Todd Bettison told reporters after shootings in the city over Fourth of July weekend left a teen dead, as well as injuring an officer and two-year-old boy.

On Saturday, the two-year-old was watching fireworks with his family at a home just before midnight when an altercation between juveniles at a park a block away escalated to shots being fired, with a stray bullet striking the toddler, according to the Detroit Police Department.

The toddler's injuries were a temporary serious status, Bettison said following the Saturday shooting, but the incident will spark a crackdown on juveniles violating the city's curfew.

"I'm appalled by it. I'm upset by it. And as a result, this department will definitely be stepping up our efforts tremendously when it comes to curfew violations," Bettison said. "[I'm] definitely thanking God that the fact that this 2-year-old baby is going to be okay"

Detroit has a curfew of 10 p.m. for unaccompanied minors under the age of 16 to vacate public spaces such as playgrounds and an 11 p.m curfew for 16 and 17-year-olds. Parents that fail to ensure their child is accounted for past curfew will receive parental responsibility tickets, Bettison said.

Two juveniles are in custody in connection to the shooting, Bettison told media Sunday morning.

The police department is imploring parents to be vigilant of the whereabouts of their children and their access to firearms, Bettison told media the morning of the Fourth of July Friday following an altercation that left one officer shot and one teen dead.

Officers had been patrolling the city's East side Thursday night in response to reports of breaking and entering, Bettison told members of the media Friday, when at around 10:30 p.m. officers observed three masked individuals by a building.

As officers detained one teenager, Bettison said two other individuals fled, one of whom, a 16-year-old boy, is alleged to have reached for a handgun and shot an officer in the hand. Officers then returned fire, killing the teen.

Detroit Police Chief Todd Bettison briefs the media after on officer-involved shooting. July 4, 2025 | Screenshot from Detroit Police Facebook page

"I just need parents to really step up. At this time of night, our kids should not be out and they should not have handguns," Bettison told members of the media Friday morning, asking for the public's help in locating the third individual police encountered.

When asked by the media about his concerns that the city may be seeing an uptick in gun violence, Bettison said though gun violence is a national problem, the city is making improvements to address the issue.

Bettison noted that the city is seeing a 20% decline in homicides and a 30% decline in non-fatal shootings compared to last summer.

This time last year, Detroit saw a surge in summertime shootings as the result of illegal block parties. In the first week of July 2024 six such gatherings led to 27 people being shot.

These shootings in 2024 were coupled by a mass shooting at a Rochester Hills splash pad over Father's Day weekend where seven adults and two children were shot by a gunman. All the victims survived their injuries and the gunman shot and killed himself during a police standoff.

Reflecting on the one-year anniversary of the shooting, Rochester Hills Mayor Bryan Barnett told WDIV-TV, that the violence of that June 15 day, which left children's shoes and ice cream cones strewn across a children's splash pad does not define the city, the community's love for one another in the wake of tragedy does.

"I'm appreciative of so many people that have come together. Our community raised about a half a million dollars for these folks, but more so than that it was the chalking on the neighborhood streets, it was eight and nine-year-old girls putting a lemonade stand raising $32. It was the best of a community coming at the worst time a community's ever experienced," Barnett said.

Anna Liz Nichols covers government and statewide issues, including criminal justice, environmental issues, education and domestic and sexual violence. Anna is a former state government reporter for The Associated Press and most recently was a reporter for the Detroit News. Anna is a graduate of Michigan State University.

Michigan Advance is part of States Newsroom, the nation's largest state-focused nonprofit news organization.

Southwest Fitness Club Clears Hurdle

By Malachi Barrett. Reprinted from BridgeDetroit with permission.

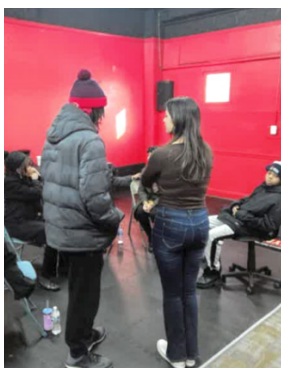
The Detroit City Council recently authorized a zoning change allowing a new boxing gym to open in the Midwest neighborhood.

Ronald Hatmaker and William Parker purchased a collection of former church properties along McGraw Street in 2022 and began renovating a vacant building into a fitness center known as Southwest Fight Club. They agreed to change the name to Southwest Fitness Club after hearing concerns from residents who were alarmed by the name and thought it encouraged violence.

The fitness club aims to provide a space for youth and adults to explore and participate in combat sports like boxing and mixed martial arts in a safe and community-oriented environment. It plans to offer free training and use of the site to youth under the age of 13.

Kronk's Boxing Gym and Steps2Change also expressed interest in collaborating with the fitness club to develop programs for the community, contingent upon the site's rezoning.

The zoning was changed from an R2 District, which allows for residential developments, to an SDI Special Development District. The change will allow the site to open.



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City Council Candidates Tackle Immigration, Pollution in District 6.

By Laurén Abdel-Razzaq. Reprinted from BridgeDetroit with permission.

Pollution, immigration enforcement and affordable housing were top of mind Thursday when the city council hopefuls from District 6 spoke to residents at BridgeDetroit's latest Meet the Candidates event.

It's well documented that pollution from vehicles and industrial sources on both sides of the Detroit River takes a toll on Southwest Detroit residents' health and quality of life.

Major sources of air pollution are scattered across the area, including Marathon, DTE Energy-owned EES Coke Battery, truck traffic servicing the Detroit Intermodal Freight Terminal, and emissions from around 10,000 trucks that cross the Ambassador Bridge daily.

"We've probably been the most researched, studied zip code anywhere. We're also tired of all the talk about pollution, and we need action," said State Rep. Tyrone Carter, who represents Ecorse, River Rouge and parts of Detroit. "It's not just a (Southwest Detroit) problem. It has impacted our lives. It has made people lose their lives from things like cancer."

Carter is facing off against District 6 incumbent Gabriela Santiago-Romero in the general election. Anita Martin, a write-in candidate, also participated in the event Thursday.

Santiago-Romero said she is proud to have worked with Council to pass a fugitive dust ordinance earlier this year that requires facilities like scrapyards and concrete plants to control airborne particles linked to respiratory issues and other health problems. The proposal was in the works since 2022.

"If you see dust in our communities, you can call our office to report those companies, Santiago-Romero said. "We're also working on a truck route ordinance to prevent trucks from driving through neighborhoods. With the new bridge opening soon, truck traffic is likely to get a lot worse."

Detroit has long been among the worst cities for air quality in the country. One way that manifests is with asthma rates. Last year, the Motor City was ranked the third-worst city to live in for those with asthma by the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America.

A 2016 study warns that ongoing pollution issues could pose a risk for children in Southwest Detroit, who make up a more significant portion of the population than in other areas of the city.

With still-developing bodies, younger residents are "particularly vulnerable to adverse health effects associated with exposure to air pollutants than other areas of the city," according to the study.

Aside from air quality and the effects of pollution, District 6 has been impacted heavily by gentrification. Residents in attendance at the Meet the Candidates event at the Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation asked the candidates whether they would support affordable housing — and in what ways.

"As we're becoming the cool spot on the block, it's displacing a lot of us. We're being gentrified," Santiago-Romero said. "We're being pushed out. We need to make sure we can afford to stay here."

Martin cited Area Median Income (AMI) as a measure that is unfair to Detroiters. AMI is calculated within the entire Detroit metro area, so it is inflated compared to incomes in the city alone.

"When you're living, you're not just paying rent. There should be basic essential needs allowed within that AMI," she said.

Her other suggestions were filling vacant lots with tiny homes to create a "community within a community" and connecting with developers to bring back homes instead of "turning neighborhoods into solar farms."

Detroit has plans to create solar arrays in five neighborhoods. Officials say the whole process has been resident-driven, and neighbors were heavily involved in designing the natural buffer zones around those sites.

Carter had a different take: "I'm tired of seeing tiny homes, I'm tired of seeing shipping containers… if we want to have families here, we need to build properties that are attainable for people who are making $20 an hour."

Immigration also stood out as a major issue for residents in attendance. Carter pointed out that Southwest Detroit has a large Arabic-speaking population in addition to Spanish-speaking residents. He stressed the importance of information access.

"We want them to understand their status. Every person here deserves to be treated decently," he said. "I'm a retired police officer (with the Wayne County Sheriff's Office). We're not going to use city dollars to enforce federal laws."

The Detroit Police Department has a policy to not assist US Immigration and Customs Enforcement or U.S. Border Patrol with deportations as part of an expanding federal policy. However, Detroit Police will show up if requested by either agency to help with crowd control. Detroiters saw this play out Monday when Detroit police officers arrested two people and used pepper spray on a group of protesters who attempted to stop ICE agents from detaining a man who was allegedly in the country illegally.

Santiago-Romero has made protecting residents in her district a priority even before she was elected to City Council and has said much of her community activism stems from her own experience as an immigrant.

She said City Council has policies in place to outline how local police can and cannot interact with federal agents and that officers are not permitted to ask questions about someone's immigration status. And she said she is spearheading other policies.

She also cited a city effort to get an independent contractor for handling Detroit IDs. The program allows for any resident, regardless of immigration status, to get an ID that will allow them to apply for relief programs and other assistance.

"Now that the Trump administration is going around FOIAing information, we have nothing to share with them," she said.

State Rep. Tyrone Carter, left, incumbent City Councilmember Gabriela Santiago-Romero and write-in candidate Anita Martin speak during a BridgeDetroit panel for Meet the Candidates on Thursday, June 26, 2025. Credit: Laurén Abdel-Razzaq, BridgeDetroit

State Rep. Tyrone Carter, right, incumbent City Councilmember Gabriela Santiago-Romero and write-in candidate Anita Martin speak during a BridgeDetroit panel for Meet the Candidates on Thursday, June 26, 2025. Credit: Laurén Abdel-Razzaq, BridgeDetroit

Carter cited an effort at the state level to help undocumented individuals in Michigan get driver's licenses. The effort, which had been underway since 2008, ultimately failed to get traction.

"Sometimes a loss is a blessing," Carter said. "Can you imagine if the state had a database of all the undocumented immigrants?"

Santiago-Romero said everyone needs to be involved in helping those in need.

"We're bringing mutual care. If you know you have a neighbor who is undocumented with children, offer to take their children to school," she said. "If you know a senior who needs to go to the doctor or has an illness, go pick up their medicine."

State Rep. Tyrone Carter, left, and incumbent City Councilmember Gabriela Santiago-Romero speak during a BridgeDetroit panel for Meet the Candidates on Thursday, June 26, 2025. Credit: Bryce Huffman, BridgeDetroit

BridgeDetroit reporters Micah Walker, left, and Malachi Barrett serve food to attendees at the District 6 Meet the Candidates event at the Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation in Southwest Detroit on June 26, 2025. Credit: Laurén Abdel-Razzaq, BridgeDetroit

BridgeDetroit 2025 Voter Guide: What jobs are Detroiters voting to fill

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MAYOR

Number of spots: 1 total, 1 up for election
Term: 4 years
Term limits: None
Compensation: $224,572 by July 2025
Role: The mayor is the chief executive of the city of Detroit and is accountable for the executive branch of the government. These duties include:

-Develop and execute a vision for the city
-Act as a conservator of the peace of the city and administer oaths and take affidavits.
-Appoint and manage deputies, department directors and other key personnel who oversee the operations of the city
-Hold at least one community meeting in each of the non at-large districts and a city-wide community meeting
-Manage the preparation, amendment, administration, and financial reporting of the city budget.
-Represent the city on a world stage
-Champion city initiatives
-Communicate with the public

CITY COUNCIL

Number of spots: 9 total, 9 up for election (1 from each of 7 districts and 2 chosen at-large)
Term: 4 years
Term limits: Two positions, City Council president and president pro tempore, are elected from within the body at the beginning of each new session and last for four-year terms.
Compensation: For council members: $106,231 by July 2025; for council president: $111,647 by July 2025
Role: The City Council acts as the legislative body for the city and engages in the following tasks:

-Operate at least five committees
-Budget and Finance
-Neighborhood and Community Services
-Human Resources
-Law and Public Safety
-Planning and Economic Development
-Any other committee the council deems necessary
-Adopt the city budget

Spirit of Detroit

-Pass ordinances and resolutions, including those to meet a public emergency
-Make investigations into the affairs of the city and the conduct of any city agency.
-Subpoena witnesses, administer oaths, take testimony and require the production of evidence in any matter pending before it or any of its committees.
-Approval of mayoral appointments of the Chief of Police, Fire Commissioner, Director of Planning and Development, Director of Human Resources and Corporation Counsel
-Oversee city property, including approving any property sales or disposal or new purchases of property
-Setting sewer and water rates as well as other general tax and service rates
-Overriding a mayoral veto
-Setting the council agenda for its meetings
-Representing their respective districts and the interests of residents
-Working with the community to understand local issues and get feedback

CITY CLERK

Number of spots: 1 total, 1 up for election
Term: 4 years
Term limits: None
Compensation: $106,231 (as of July 2025)
Role:

-Keep all papers filed in or pertaining to the Office of the City Clerk
-Keep the corporation seal of the city
-When requested, certify, under the corporate seal, copies of all papers and records for the office
-Administer oaths
-Take affidavits
-Maintain reasonably accessible voter registration sites throughout the city on a year-round basis
-Serve as City Council's clerk and keep a record of all its ordinances, resolutions, and other proceedings and perform other such duties as it may provide
-Exercise other powers and duties as provided by law, the City Charter or ordinance.

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Number of spots: 11 total, 7 up for election (Four members of the Board shall be appointed by the mayor)
Term: 4 years
Term limits: None
Compensation: Elected members shall not be entitled to salaries, retirement benefits, health benefits or other fringe benefits
Role:

-Establish policies, rules and regulations in consultation with the police chief and with the approval of the mayor
-Review and approve the departmental budget before its submission to the mayor
-Receive and resolve any complaint concerning the operation of the Detroit Police Department and forward all allegations of criminality to the appropriate internal or external law enforcement agency for further investigation
-Act as the final authority in imposing or reviewing discipline of police department employees
-Make an annual report to the mayor, the City Council, and the public of the police department's activities during the previous year, including the handling of crime and complaints. The Board may subpoena witnesses, administer oaths, take testimony, and require the production of evidence

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Number of spots: 7 total, 3 up for election (5 from individual districts, 1 youth member between 13-17, 1 senior representative)
Term: 4 years
Term limits: No more than two consecutive 4-year terms. The youth member cannot be reelected if they are older than 17.
Compensation: Unpaid (must hold public meetings at least four times per year)
Funding: Community Advisory Councils shall receive no appropriations from city funds, but may accept donations or grants in accordance with state, federal or local laws.
Role:

-Communicate local district concerns to the City Council
-Community problem solving by meeting with different groups, agencies, businesses and residents
-Disseminating information to groups, agencies, businesses and residents on social and physical plans for the districts areas.
-Providing advice to community representatives and City Council on major issues within the council district, including housing development, commercial blight, safety and security, economic and community development, employment opportunities, code enforcement and environmental conditions.
-Assisting the community in understanding the City Charter and Master Plan.
-Meet annually with the mayor and City Council on issues affecting the district.

Uncle Ray's Mascot "CHIP CHAMPION CHALLENGE"

EL CENTRAL
HISPANIC NEWS
SPORTS
Sports Editor: Dan Graschuck/ EL CENTRAL

All photos by Jessica Ericson

This past Monday, at Cherry Creek Golf Club, in Macomb County, the Detroit Sports Media Association held its annual charity Uncle Ray's Potato Chip, Mascot "CHIP CHAMPION CHALLENGE and golf scramble)".

The event raised money for high school and college students that wish to pursue a career in sports and broadcast journalism.

The mascots that participated in the Uncle Ray's Mascot CHIP CHAMPION CHALLENGE are:

- **LANCELOT** - Utica Unicorns - (USPBL) United Shore Professional Baseball League
- **RIBBI** - Eastside Diamond Hoppers - (USPBL)
- **WOOLLY** - Westside Woolly Mammoths
- **BUZZ** - Birmingham Bloomfield Beavers
- **BLUE** - Lawrence Technological University
- **SPARTY** - Michigan State University
- **PAWS** - Detroit Tigers
- **BURT** - Saginaw Spirit
- **HOOPER** - Detroit Pistons
- **MUDDY** - Toledo Mud Hens
- **HOT WING** - Flint Firebirds
- **PABLO** - Michigan Panthers

This years winner was Ribbi (Eastside Diamond Hoppers)

Photos below are highlights from Uncle Ray's Mascot "Chip Champion Challenge"

(l-R) SPARTY - Michigan State University, HOT WING - Flint Firebirds, WOOLLY - Westside Woolly Mammoths, 2025 Uncle Ray's "Chip Champion Challenge" winner RIBBI - Eastside Diamond Hoppers - (USPBL), LANCELOT - Utica Unicorns - (USPBL) United Shore Professional Baseball League, BUZZ - Birmingham Bloomfield Beavers, HOOPER - Detroit Pistons, BURT - Saginaw Spirit, PABLO - Michigan Panthers, BLUE - Lawrence Technological University, MUDDY - Toledo Mud Hens, PAWS - Detroit Tigers (laying down)

That Sinking Feeling Hits DCFC

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS SPORTS

Pateando la No. 5

David Levine
EL CENTRAL

Having confidently beaten Miami FC in the league and staged an inspiring comeback to edge past Hartford in the Jagermeister Cup, it looked like Detroit City had turned a corner from their Spring slump. Then, Le Rouge travelled to Oakland and laid an egg in the aging Alameda Colosseum that pointed towards a continuing Summer swoon that caused them to drop yet another place in the Eastern Conference standings.

Detroit City didn't manage a shot on goal until the 89th minute, a well-taken but weakly struck volley by defender Alex Villanueva. That paltry output came against the worst team in the Western Conference. The Oakland Roots jumped over two other struggling teams after their surprisingly easy 2-0 win over DCFC.

Danny Dichio has to be feeling the heat by now. Granted the team missed captain Stephen Carroll, winger Rhys Williams, and forward Ben Morris, but the team had a long winless run with all three playing regularly. The attack has lost its early season potency. Top scorer Darrin Smith has gone quiet and been substituted frequently. Loan signing Jordan Adebayo-Smith has disappeared from the roster. Dichio removed Connor Rutz at halftime after an ineffective forty-five minutes, replacing him with the equally ineffective Sebastian Guenzatti.

However, midfield is where games can be won or lost. DCFC has lost the midfield battle in nearly every game since late April. The likes of Ryan Williams, Jay Chapman, Dominic Gasso, Haruki Yamazaki, Marco Polisi, and Abdoulaye Diop have been tried in various combination to little effect. They aren't keeping possession or creating nearly enough opportunities for the forwards. They don't cover enough ground and put in enough tackles to protect the back line. They have lost too many physical battles. Jeciel Cedeno, the man tasked with replacing Maxi Rodriguez, has not been up to the task. A brilliant goal against Miami aside, his production has been minimal.

Oakland, like so many previous opponents, eased past the midfield to get at the back three. The lack of presence gave Panos Armanakis plenty of time and space to line up his opening goal after 55 minutes. Too many DCFC players watched the play develop, but none stepped up to cover the Roots player. Polisi's own goal in the 85th minute simply put a cap on a dismal performance.

Returning home to face Hartford this weekend, the team has to play with some desperation. They have fallen to sixth place in the Eastern Conference and both the two teams above them and below them have a game extra to play. DCFC is only four points above the line to make the playoffs. Whereas in April a home playoff game looked like a solid bet, just making the playoffs is in jeopardy if they continue to tumble down the table.

POCHETTINO GETS CONCACAFED

Welcome Mauricio Pochettino to CONCACAF! Where a foul is not a foul. A hand ball is not a hand ball. And, when you play at home, it's really an away game. The new US manager received a full dose of what it's like to represent the United States in the weirdness of CONCACAF. Mexico, supported by at least 70% of the crowd, dominated the Americans in a sold out NRG Stadium in Houston to win back-to-back CONCACAF Gold Cups.

It didn't help Pochettino that many of his first choice players didn't turn up due to injuries, Club World Cup commitments, or vacation requests. The players who did represent the national team did so with pride. He cannot fault his players for effort. Execution? Now, that's another subject. They turned the ball over regularly and failed to escape their own half not just against Mexico, but in their mighty struggle against not so mighty Guatemala. That will be disheartening.

In the post-tournament analysis, it won't be the blatant handling by Jorge Sanchez in the 66th minute that decided the game. It won't be the numerous holds, pushes, and trips that Mexico's defenders used to slow down US striker Patrick Agyemang that went unpunished. It will be the Americans' inability to play the ball with the requisite skill and control it for longer spells that decided the game. The central midfield combination of Tyler Adams and Luca De La Torre played numerous passes straight to their opponents. It also seemed that any headed ball from an American defender went straight to a Mexican player. Too many turnovers put the US on the back foot for much of the game. Fix those things and the US has more of a chance.

Once basic ball possession can be maintained, then they can focus on the final product. That was lacking. Agyemang is a physical force. Now, he has to become a striker. He is moving to Derby County in the English Championship, joining Josh Sargent, Darryl Dike, Charlie Kelman, and Gold Cup teammate Damion Downs in the second tier of English football. He will have physical challenges like against Mexico, but he will have to hone his finishing skills or his chances of appearing for the US next summer will rely on injuries to players ahead of him.

Mexican boss Javier Aguirre can look at the Gold Cup as mission accomplished for Mexico. They now hold the Nations League and Gold Cup titles. With the exception of a disappointing 0-0 draw with Costa Rica in the group phase, Mexico won all their games by one goal. They were clinging on against the Dominican Republic and didn't score prolifically against any opponent, still relying on 34 year old Raul Jimenez as their biggest threat.

At least in Edson Alvarez Mexico has an inspiring captain who can control the rhythm of a game at the heart of midfield, fitting that he scored the tournament winner. They also have twin tower defenders in Johan Vasquez and Cesar Montes who are ready to battle with big center forwards. Aguirre also had the benefit of being able to have his first choice team together for over a month. That preparation will come in handy when they gather next May to prepare for three World Cup group matches on home soil.

Pochettino has work to do. He now has what was essentially a B team that made a decent run in the Gold Cup to analyze. He will have to determine who from this group can move forward with the big names if and when they return. Defender Chris Richards was already considered a starter, but he emerged as a real leader in the Gold Cup. Matt Freese gave a competent performance in goal with an outstanding job against penalty kicks in the quarterfinal with Costa Rica. Malik Tillman, battered and bruised, finally gave a glimpse of his club form with the national team. Diego Luna fights with the grit that Pochettino loves. His disappointing performance in the final should not keep him off future rosters. Tyler Adams looked like he was carrying an injury and it told in his performances. He didn't have his usual impact in midfield. There are going to be roster spots available to earn over the next eleven months. It will start with the September friendly games against South Korea and Japan.

Wrestling Returns To Corktown: Panic in Detroit Hits Batch Brewing Co, July 19th

• Over 20 Superstars in Action

Get ready for body slams, cold beer, and chaos in Corktown! International Bigtime Wrestling teams up with Throwdown Theatre to present Panic in Detroit—a hard-hitting, family-friendly wrestling event happening Friday, July 19th at Batch Brewing Co. in the heart of Detroit.

This unique outdoor showdown will feature over 20 wrestling superstars, including:

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For tickets, visit universe.com or pay at the door.

Let the chaos begin.

(L-R photos by Adam J. Dewey and Adam Sippel)

NWA Superstar Big Mama at Taqueria El Rey event last month, and will be at Panic in Detroit on July 19th

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EDITORIAL OPINION

Guest Opinion:

What To Do About the Tinpot Dictator:

He can be stopped only with people power

By Robert Reich/
Illustration Credit:
MacKaycaartoon

Never before in American history, not even in wartime, has one man exercised such unbridled discretion affecting the lives of so many of us, while simultaneously preventing others — Congress, the courts, the American people — from having a say or even knowing what he's going to do next.

On Monday, July 7 he sent ICE agents and National Guard troops into Los Angeles, over the objections of the governor of California and the mayor of Los Angeles. He is also sending 200 Marines to Florida to aid ICE.

Where will he next direct ICE, National Guard, and active duty military? He isn't saying. But it's our country.

He has targeted undocumented agricultural and hospitality workers for arrest and deportation, after saying he would not do so. What's the policy here? He isn't telling us. But it's our country.

Meanwhile, he said yesterday that he'd subject imports from Japan, South Korea, and a dozen other nations to new 25 percent tariffs — which will, of course, translate into additional taxes on American consumers — effective August 1.

He threatened to impose even higher tariff-taxes on countries that align with BRIC nations (Brazil, Russia, India, and China) after that group expressed "serious concerns" over any country imposing unilateral tariffs.

I remember a time when American presidents had to go to Congress to impose tariffs. How can he tax us without our consent? It's our country.

He is consulting with Benjamin Netanyahu about the next stage of the war with Iran, but not consulting Congress, yet it's our country.

He is targeting universities that he believes haven't adequately eliminated DEI, or have allowed transgender athletes to compete, or failed to stop demonstrations against Israel's war in Gaza. Last week, his regime forced a major university president to resign.

Which universities are next, and for what reason? He isn't saying, even though it's our country.

He intends to go after more law firms and media companies that have crossed him. But which, and why?

Will he let TikTok continue to function in the United States even though Congress has passed a law prohibiting it? He hasn't said.

He says it's all a "bargaining strategy" to make better deals. But deals for whom?

Rubbish. It's not a bargaining strategy. He doing all this because he loves to display his power. He relishes it when powerful people plead with him, prostrate themselves before him, beg him, and submit to his whims. He delights in changing his mind and keeping everyone else guessing.

Some who seek his favor are pouring money into TV ads for his eyes only in West Palm Beach, where he resides at Mar-a-Lago (according to a Wall Street Journal analysis of advertising data).

Some who seek his favor are buying his crypto coins.

Some are sending him lavish jet airplanes.

Some who seek his favor are speaking publicly of his brilliance, his insight, his daring. They talk of putting his face on Mount Rushmore.

Many are afraid to criticize him.

This, my friends, is called a dictatorship.

The chief executive of a democracy doesn't say — as Trump did recently — "I may or may not, nobody knows what I'll do." The chief executive of a democracy doesn't say this because power in a democracy belongs to the people.

This is why Congress enacted a War Powers Act, so presidents have to gain Congress's consent before sending the United States to war.

It's why the Constitution gives Congress the power to set the terms of international trade, including tariffs.

Why the Constitution gives Congress the power to appropriate funds.

Why laws bar a president from sending active military troops into a state without the permission of the state's governor.

And why there's no basis in law or the Constitution for a president to single out specific law firms, universities, or media companies for penalties because they have angered him.

So how do we take our democracy back?

The federal courts are playing a crucial role. Across America, judges — appointed by both Democratic and Republican presidents — are stopping the tinpot dictator from taking over entirely. They deserve our gratitude.

But you and and I are playing the most critical roles — marching, organizing, demonstrating, boycotting, demanding, supporting leaders who stand up to him and criticizing those who won't.

It may seem like months ago, but on June 14, some 6 million of us protested against him — the largest civil demonstration in American history. It showed the power of the people. It gave many of us hope.

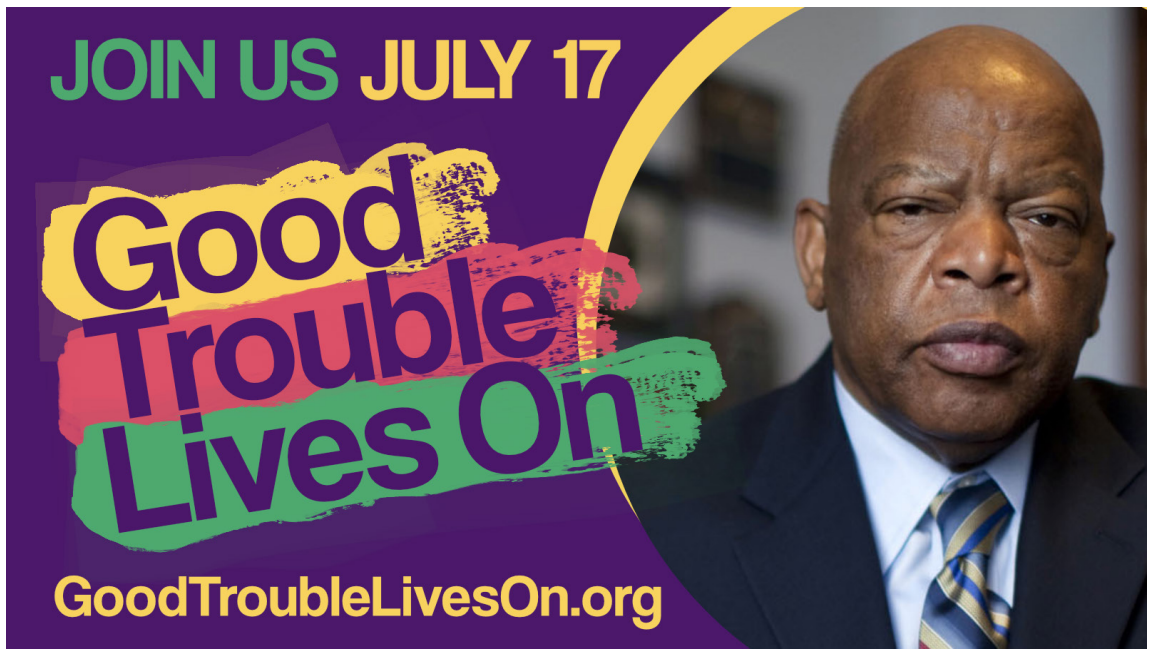
We must follow that extraordinary event by an even larger nationwide demonstration on **July 17, Good Trouble Lives On Day**.

On July 17, five years since the passing of Congressman John Lewis, communities across the country will take to the streets, courthouses, and community spaces to carry forward his fight for justice, voting rights, and dignity for all.

On July 17, we must DOUBLE the number of us who turned out June 14. Because it's our country.

And we must also appear in town halls that any Republican senators and representatives are holding, to tell them we refuse to live in a dictatorship. And tell them that we're going to make sure they aren't reelected.

Democracy is not a spectator sport.



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SPECIAL WORLD'S CULTURES

Raramuri – Tarahumara

Raramuri - Tarahumara

The Rarámuri are an indigenous people, also known as Tarahumara, who live in northern Mexico, in the Sierra de Chihuahua region, at over 3,000 meters above sea level in the Copper Canyon. The name Rarámuri means "light-footed." This name is due to their habit of running in the mountains to carry out their activities.

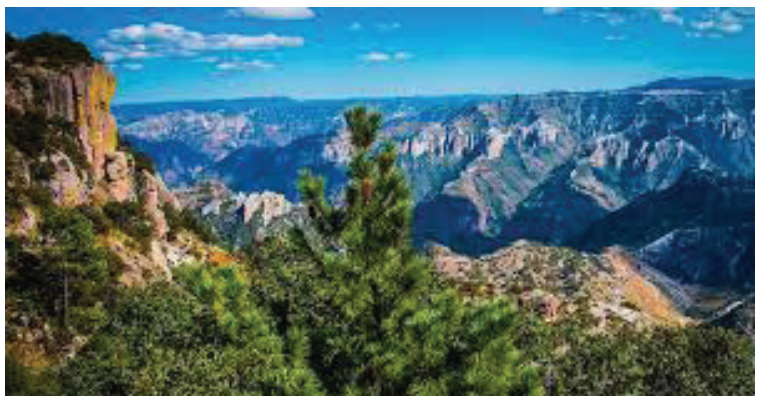
They inhabit the part of the Sierra Madre Occidental that crosses the states of Chihuahua, Durango, and Sonora. They share this territory with the Tepehuanes, Pimas, Guarojíos, and Mexican mestizos. Of the region's indigenous groups, they are the most numerous, with a population of 50,000, occupying most of the mountain range, which is why this region is called the Sierra Tarahumara.

The Rarámuri language is part of the Uto-Aztecan language family, a language family that extends from Utah in the United States to Central America. Along with Concho and Guarojío, it is considered part of the Cahita-Opata-Tarahumara subgroup, related to the Pima-Tepehuan subgroup and the Cora-Huichol subgroup.

There are dialectal differences in the Tarahumara language that, while not profound, allow for a certain degree of intelligibility among all Tarahumara speakers.

From the perspective of this group, health reflects the quality of an individual's relationships with other beings in the universe, as protection or harm from them depends on the interaction between humans and supernatural beings.

The Tarahumara believe that a human being is composed of a body and one or more souls. The body is made up of sapá (fleshy parts or muscles), ochí (bones), and lá (blood), animated by one or more souls.



The most serious illnesses are those that can cause the permanent loss of souls and are usually caused by a sorcerer or by the ingestion of the jícuri or bakánowi plants.

The Tarahumara live in ranches; their dwelling consists of a house, a barn, and a wooden corral. The houses are built with wood, adobe, quarry, or stone, depending on the material available in the region. The most common dwellings are made of pine logs arranged horizontally, one on top of the other, with a canoe-like or gabled roof; the logs are joined at the corners, and the cracks are filled with a mud mixture.

Sigue cada semana en
EL CENTRAL Hispanic News
ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO,
by Mariana Ayón RV

The origin of the Rarámuri and the Chabochis

According to the Rarámuri creation myth, Onorúame, the sun god, wanted to test the world he had created. He took some ears of corn, husked them, and formed the figure of a man from the kernels, blowing on it three times to give it life. Then, he formed the figure of a woman and blew on it four times, one more time to give her the strength she needed to give birth to her children. This is how the Rarámuri, the children of the corn, were created.

However, in the realm of darkness, another creation was taking place. The Devil, envious of the creation of the Tarahumara, wanted to create his own race of men. Since there was no corn in his kingdom, he took a handful of ashes and blew on it once to create the Chabochi, which is what the Rarámuri call the white man.

Tarahumara Soup

Ingredients

2 tablespoons oil
1 onion, chopped
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 cup tender corn kernels
1 1/2 liters chicken broth
1 sprig of epazote
1 cup chopped green beans
6 zucchini, chopped
500 grams squash blossoms, trimmed and chopped
4 sprigs chard, stemmed and chopped
4 sprigs spinach, leaves chopped
3 poblano peppers, roasted, peeled, deseeded, and diced

Preparation

1. Heat the oil in a pot over medium heat. Add the onion and garlic and sauté until translucent. Add the broth and let it boil for 5 minutes.

2. Add the green beans, zucchini, squash blossoms, chard, spinach, and chiles. Continue cooking over medium heat until all the vegetables are cooked.

ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO

Tarahumara – Rarámuri

Rarámuris / Tarahumaras

Los Rarámuris son un pueblo indígena, también conocidos como Tarahumaras, viven en el norte de México, en la región de la sierra de Chihuahua a más de 3,000 metros sobre el nivel del mar en las Barrancas del cobre. El nombre rarámuri significa "de los pies ligeros". Esta denominación se debe a la costumbre que tienen de correr en las montañas para llevar a cabo sus actividades.

Habitan la parte de la Sierra Madre Occidental que atraviesa el estado de Chihuahua, Durango y Sonora. Comparten este territorio con los Tepehuanes, Pimas, Guarojíos y mexicanos mestizos. De los grupos originarios de la región es el más numeroso, con una población de 50,000 habitantes, ocupando así la mayor parte del territorio de la sierra, por lo que a esta región se le denomina sierra Tarahumara.

La lengua rarámuri forma parte de la familia yuto-azteca, familia de lenguas que se extiende desde Utah en los Estados Unidos hasta Centroamérica y está considerada junto con el Concho y el Guarojío dentro del subgrupo cahíta-ópata-tarahumara, emparentado con el subgrupo pima-tepehuano y el cora-huichol.

Existen diferencias dialectales en la lengua tarahumara que, sin llegar a ser muy profundas, provocan una cierta inteligibilidad entre todos los hablantes de tarahumara.

Desde la perspectiva de este grupo, la salud refleja la calidad de las relaciones del individuo con otros seres del universo, pues el que sean protegidos o dañados por ellos, depende de la interacción del hombre con los seres sobrenaturales.

Los tarahumaras consideran que el ser humano se compone de un cuerpo y de una o más almas. El cuerpo está constituido por sapá (partes carnosas o músculos), ochí (huesos) y lá (sangre), animados por una o más almas.

Las enfermedades más serias son aquellas que pueden causar la pérdida definitiva de las almas y que suelen ser provocadas por algún hechicero o por la ingestión de las plantas jícuri o bakánowi.

Los tarahumaras habitan en ranchos; su vivienda consiste en una casa-habitación, un granero y un corral de madera. Las casas se construyen con madera, adobe, cantera o piedra, dependiendo del material que haya en la región. Lo más común es encontrar viviendas hechas de troncos de pino dispuestos de manera horizontal, uno sobre otro, con techo de canoa o de vigas de dos aguas; los troncos son ensamblados en las esquinas y las rendijas son tapadas con una mezcla de lodo.

Tell them you saw it in Diles que lo viste en
EL CENTRAL
Hispanic News

El origen de los Rarámuri y los Chabochis

De acuerdo con el mito de creación de los Rarámuri, Onorúame, dios del sol, quiso poner a prueba el mundo que había creado. Tomó algunas mazorcas de maíz, las desgranó y formó con los granos una figura de hombre, a la cual sopló tres veces para darle vida. Después, formó una figura de mujer y sopló cuatro veces, un soplo más para darle la fuerza que necesitaba para dar a luz a sus hijos. Así es como fueron creados los Rarámuri, los hijos del maíz.

Sin embargo, en el reino de la oscuridad, otra creación se estaba gestando. El Diablo, al sentir envidia por la creación de los tarahumaras, quiso hacer a su propia raza de hombres. Como no había maíz en su reino, tomó un puñado de ceniza y sopló una sola vez para crear a los Chabochis, que es como los Rarámuri llaman al hombre blanco.

Sopa Tarahumara

Ingredientes

2 cucharadas de aceite
1 cebolla, picada
2 dientes de ajo, picados
1 taza de granos de elote tiernos
1 1/2 litros de caldo de pollo
1 rama de epazote
1 taza de ejotes picados
6 calabacitas, picadas
500 gramos de flor de calabaza, limpia y picada
4 ramas de acelgas, sin tallos y picadas
4 ramas de espinacas, sus hojas picadas
3 chiles poblanos, asados, pelados, desvenados y cortados en cuadritos

Preparación

1. Calienta el aceite en una olla a fuego medio. Agrega la cebolla y el ajo, y sofríe hasta que se vean transparentes. Añade el caldo y deja que hierva durante 5 minutos.

2. Incorpora los ejotes, calabacitas, flor de calabaza, acelgas, espinacas y chiles. Sigue cocinando a fuego medio hasta que todas las verduras se hayan cocido.

NUESTRA COMUNIDAD, NUESTROS RETOS, NUESTRA VOZ
OUR COMMUNITY, OUR ISSUES, OUR VOICES

Estado del Suroeste de Detroit: Foro de candidatos a la Alcaldía

State of Southwest Detroit: A Mayoral Candidate Forum

SAB. JULIO 19 EN / SAT, JULY 19TH AT CÉSAR CHÁVEZ ACADEMY MIDDLE SCHOOL
6782 GOLDSMITH ST. DETROIT, MI 48209, 12PM-2PM

Residentes del suroesto de Detroit: participen en un foro de candidatos a la alcaldía que pone a nuestra comunidad - nuestros retos y nuestras historias - en el centro. Se pedirá a los candidatos a la alcaldía de Detroit que escuchen primero los testimonios de los residentes y luego hablen de lo que piensan hacer para dar forma al futuro de nuestra ciudad. ¿Tienes preguntas? Envíanos un correo electrónico a info@mi-poder.org o llama a Adonis @ 313-658-2389

Southwest Detroiters: be a part of a mayoral candidate forum that puts our community—our issues and our stories—at the center. Candidates for Detroit mayor will be asked to listen first to residents' testimonies and then speak to the role they intend to play in shaping our city's future. Questions? Email us at info@mi-poder.org or call Adonis @ 313-658-2389.

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Independencia de
COLOMBIA 2025
Julio 19
7 am - 8 pm
- Himno Nacional: Johan Duque
- Actividades para niños (Hockeyshots, piñata y más)
- Presentaciones culturales: Reflejos Latinos
- Danzas Folclóricas: Juan Castañeda - joven prodigio de la salsa
- Música urbana latina: TommyPapi
- Música para bailar con reconocidos DJs
- Competencia de baile
- Comida y productos colombianos
- Rifa
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JUAN CASTAÑEDA
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